FOUR YEARS.

-Busy Times in a Blond Hair Factory.

In these days a woman may manage

very well with hats and gowns of domestic

manufacture, but she cannot get on without

mported hair, for the reason that the bulk

of the human hair used in America comes

One of New York's dozen of importers

of human hair described the present de-

mand for fa'se hair by saying that his own

importations alone consisted of seven or

eight cases at a time, each containing

between 400 and 500 pounds of hair. To give

an idea of how many sparate articles this

out that a two ounce switch is long and

thick, that a curly, luxuriant pompadour

Curly bangs, puffs and curls weigh much

is scarce: They add, though, that thirty

years ago New York women who wore the

waved fronts in fashion then paid bigger

prices for them than are charged now for

"Twenty-five years ago there were women

who paid \$150 for a small waved piece of

gray hair which now could be purchased

for little more than half that sum," said a

"There was little competition in those

days, and good workmen were starce.

Put the two things together and it meant

that the few men in the business had a

A Frenchwoman who started in bust-

ness in this city twenty-five years ago thinks

that the difference in price is explained in

part by the difference in workmanship. The

better than the average hair work now, she

now and also that styles are far more beau-

tiful, that we have dozens more varieties

than the hair market included twenty-five

years ago and that the working appliances

-the nee iles, the blocks, the netting, every-

thing in fact used in the hair business now-

tend toward the production of almost per-

fect specimens of hair work in a minimum

"Nevertheless, in spite of all these advan-

tages, none of us can show higher class ex-

amples of hair work than those turne i out

in the days when it was the exception for

a young woman with an ordinary head of

hair to invest in a false pompadour. When

I started in business there was only one

quality of work-the best-handed out to

customers; now there seem to be many

grades, ranging from best to worst, and

The best hair dealers all say much the

same thing. None but first class workmen

are employed in their establishments and

only natural hair of natural color is in their

stock. Chinese pigtails disguised may

adorn the heads of some of New York's

most attractive women, but if so it would

not be easy to trace them to a Fifth avenue

"Only the best qualities in natural colors

comprise our stock," said one. "This applies

even to the blond shades, of which there are

dozens-drabs, lighter and darker; goldens,

flaxen, ash blond and all sorts of reis-and

which are far more expensive than the

'arker colors because harder to get. Sweden

and Germany give us most of the light

"Undoubtedly there is considerable blond hair in the retail stops which prigi-

nally was dark, but it will not be found

Movertheless, alook into the work rooms of rethers the largest wholesale hair concern in the city would suggest that there is little else than bleached and dyed light hair in New York. In this rhace hundreds of rounds of block and very dark brown hair was soaking in big vats filled with bleaching chemicals, great quantities of hair bleached to a tawny yillow and shaw color hung in one pound bunches from clothes lines dying, hears of the died tawny article we're shread out on tables before workmen who made it ready for another

fore workmen who made it ready for another

fore workmen who made it ready for another bath.

More brir of the same sort was cooking in boiling liquids of different shades of color or undergoing the final dressing at sill other tables. There were clothes lines, too, hung with burches of pure white hair only—or to be accurate, cream white hair. This had just emerged from a chemical bath which changed black into white.

"There is very little natural gray or white hair in the market," the manager of this rlice confessed frankly. "The hair of elderly recoile is ant to be thin and not over and above healthy and naturally the owners would not be inclined to part

"Is the color of these manufactured blond shades enduring?" the dealer was

"Why, or tainly. Just as enduring as the color of a piece of silk or woollen dess goods. Heir growing on the head can't be dyed a fast color, for the leason that it

regulate to some extent prices in the huir

market, the fluctuations in price indicating the ease or difficulty with which hair is

"At one time many pessant gi la were

willing to sell all their hair for a good price. Then laws were passed forbidding the practice. As things turned out, the loss in the

quantity of hair brought to maket was not or great as might be imagined. Instead of a few gils cutting off all their hair hun-

eds cut out strands f om the back to sell.

ities in countries where labor is cheap

he demand.

almost as many qualities of hair."

or Broadway hair shop.

"I must admit that superb work is done

dealer, "and for two reasons:

sort of corner on hair goods."

believes. Said she:

of time.

quantity of hair would make, he pointed

from Europe.

le s than an ounce.

similar articles.

A Flood of Letters From Women All Over the Country Brought by the Announce-Meeteetse Was Looking for Wives, can't beat man in the game of life.

The Gray Bull Club of Meeteetse, Wyo., formed to encourage the importation of wives into that womanless land, had not been running two months before it received 8,000 offers of matrimony from women all over the United States. There is an embarrassment of riches for the bachelors of Wyoming, for the Gray Bulls number only

Newspaper publicity did it. The members of the club, bachelors all, young for the most part and nearly all in the cattle business, decided to make their wants known through the Fastern press. A newspaper correspondent wrote an article about it, which was published simultaneously last February, in several newspapers of the Fast.

The Gray Bulls didn't promise immediate matrimony. They realized that Wyoming was short of women; and they promised to be good to any maid or widow who immigrated, to find her employment if she needed it, and then to let the law of sex attraction do the rest. It was felt that any enterprising girl, once established in that country of great demand, would be able to pick her man and superman him.

The first result was flattering in the extreme. The local post office was choked with letters to Mr. Barrow, the secretary. Most of the 8,000 letters arrived the first week, but there have been scattering responses ever since. Women of New York and its environs sent about 383.

Now the club is able to report that it has imported more than 100 of the 8,000, found them places in the Territory, and left the rest to their own powers of attraction and the ardent wooing of the cowpunchers

From the New York letters a few samples have been culled.

It is hard to tell whether this one expects to be taken seriously or is just joshing the Gray Bulls:

"I would prefer a man who was kind and good, with a million or over, for although I am not mercerary, it is much more easy to be happy with money than without, and I believe in being honest in regard to the matter-then there can be no mistake. I am capable at managing a house in every detail, as I have always lived home with my mother but now my parents are both dead and I am alone, so I must make a change of some kind: but I will not marry a poor man.

"I am musical, have a college education, and am able to take care of myself, but I feel as if I would like a man sixty or over to take care of me always."

A widow in Brooklyn says that she has a sister in Wyoming and would like to have a husband out there so that she could be near her sister. She adds:

"I am honest, upright and a Christlan woman. Don't fool or want to be fooled with, as I am sincere. Cheerful disposition. Understanding housekeeping in all its branches, and sewing.

"Would like a gentleman anywhere from 45 to 60, even older if he has means to take care of him in his old age, as I am a good nurse also. I would give the best of care and kind treatment as a good wife should. I have a gentleman I am keeping with. My sister got such a nice husband I think I much rather have a Western

From Harlem comes this businesslike statement of requirements:

"I saw in Sunday's paper an advertisement about your place saving there were so many bachelors I thought I would write me. I want a dark complexioned man. loving disposition, for I require a good deal of attention. I am a willow, 35, blue say good looking. 5 feet 9 inches in heigth. work as a saleslady in a bakery from 6:30 A. M. to 7:30 P. M. Long hours, don't you think? Horing that this will reach the eye of some good man."

This one makes no secret of her anxiety: "To Whom it may Concern seeing an Ad in the Paper about the Organize Club of a Thousand menbers to get help-mates I take the opportunity of answering the same. I am a strong Healthy woman of 45 years was never married but if I got acquainted with some good and worthy man would appreciate a good Catholiac woman I would not hasitate. No other need reply. Can give good references and expect the same. Horirg to hear from you before going into further detail I remein anxious'

A girl of White Plains wants a cowboy busband and hopes that the letter will be handed to a cowboy between 25 and 35. tall, dark, need not be handsome, but honest, and able to support a family. To such she promises a photograph of herself

in "cowboy girl costume." A young woman of Dobbs Ferry writes in a business college hand a most alluring account of herself and says: "Just any old man won't do, either."

A young woman of Harlem calls the attention of the secretary of the Gray Bulls to the fact that she cannot imagine a greater tragedy than to go West and after marrying find that neither is congenial to the other. She wants a man of innate refinement otherwise he would be devoid of sentiment. However, this one spoils her chances with the truly loyal citizens of Wyoming by concluding:

"I do not desire to bleach my bones so far from home."

This comes from an address not far from Gramerov Park: I am English and have been out West

I like the West very much and would like to go West again. I am Episcopalian. I am Earning my Living as a cook. I would perfer a English, Scotch or American age about 40. I am a good Housekeeper and Neat. Have good Refances. Am tall and

A young woman of Greenwich village, 25 years old and of alluring specifications. wants a man not more than ten or twelve years older than herself, but if those are all gone she will take one from fifteen to twenty

years older. A young woman of Albany says that there are about twenty-eight girls to a man in and weighing 104 pounds. She would her neighborhood. She wants a kind like to correspond with a "nice, noble hearted man, but she thinks that every one

in the West is "that way." A Jewish widow with a daughter 22 years old, but with no other incumbrances, wants a good Jewish husband. A woman of White Plains writes on behalf of a friend who is too modest to take her pen in hand for that purpose, asking what the "fair' is out to Wyoming, as she thinks of send-

ing her friend there for a husband. A woman of the West Side, past 40 and still "Miss," wants a man 45 years old. "Dislike a man with whiskers," she says

Either smooth shaven or mustache." A Southern widow, residing temporarily in New York, writes three pages of her genealogy and takes a shy at Northern

"I can understand how New Eng'and fur- himself any is a letter from a member of nished the largest quota. This city is overrun with New Englanders. Why, they have forsaken all the past traditions they may have possessed—'Home and Home Cooking.' the rostrum, preachers, real estate, doctors, lawyers, &c., and last but not least to run automobiles. It seems to me that every womanly woman attribute has been given ment That the Gray Bull Club of up by the Northern women to see if they

In conclusion the writer wishes the Gray Bull Club every joy "in this life and even in the life to come.'

One woman, a great deal more modest than some of the rest, wonders if they will consider a candidate of Si years. A Brooklyn woman asks if the members of the club are intelligent and enlightened. If they are, she knows of several women thereabouts, women of refinement and good families, who would appreciate Western husbands. They could start in as teachers. she says, but they would not be averse to marriage. As for herself, she doesn't want a Western husband.

A charitable woman of New York writes in behalf of the two women who run the boarding house where she lives. She thinks that they would make good mates for good men. They are of German parentage and speak both English and Hurgarian. She wants for them two good, serious Western men-no triflers.

Still another helper of her sex lives far out on Broadway. She is happy herself, as it is, but she knows several women who need husbands and will be glad to furnish their addresses.

A Brooklyn woman has two sisters and two friends "in the field." as she expresses it. They are equally divided between wife and widow and range from 3 to 48.

To top off the altruistic offers, a whole club throws itself at the head of Montana. The letter, which comes from Albany, is as follows:

"The Society of -- sends greetings to the gentlemen of your club. Our society numbers thirty. Our members are expert housekeepers and are well educated. Some are beautiful. The causes of our single blessedness are many, but would not interest you. The causes of the like condition in your club are, we understand, the want of women's society. We desire to know the desires of your members."

A widow of 35 wants to start as housekeeper. She is not especially inclined to matrimony, unless she can find her affinity. The following letters need no comment:

"The writer is of the blond (natural) type, some 5 feet 5 inches in height, weighs pounds, fair complexion, excellent health, lovial nature; fond of music, art, literature and a fair housekeeper. Not prejudiced in any way to religious beliefs. All are good!

"Young? Yes, still young. The twenty and nine years that have passed have left few traces on my brow or heart. know quite a little of the Golden West, as I frequently visit relatives in Chicago.

The men of the great, big West want wives, and here is one girl willing to aid in

supplying the demand: "I am 20, with the disadvantage of looking about 17. I am not beautiful, not even pretty. I am short, of slight build. Fortunately, my hands and feet are both in proportion, being small, well shaped and not entirely unbeautiful.

"My hair is an undecided brown; I am extremely pale; my nose is frankly bad; my mouth is small and rather too firmly set: my lower jaw is square and determined as a man's should be.

"The strong points that redeem my face from actual ugliness are my eyes, large and deep blue, with long lashes, my broad, intellectual forehead, and my eyebrows, which are well arched and strong.

"My entire appearance indicates not beauty but the refinement of birth and to you and see if you could find one to suit education. In short, I look quite the kind of girl who would not write a letter like

eyes and dar's brown hair. Some people very stubborn. I have a violent temper, over which, however, I exercise remarkable control. I am generous, loyal, a good friend.

"I believe in love, but hate sentimentality. I belong to a good family, but am lacking in all that important commodity, money After several years of study, my health has failed and with it my hopes and ambitions. * * * Is there in your club any man -a dark man, one who is strong generous, well educated-a manly man? If there is, let him send his picture and news of himself to me at once."

"I am a blonde (spoken of as a reddish blonde), 33 years old, and a widow. Pink and white complexion-skin as soft as a baby's-small hands and feet-eyes a bluish gray. Health has always been good, with the exception of indigestion and an attack of nervous prostration, from which, I think, I have fully recovered.

"It does not seem modest to find out one's good points and talk or write about them. Do you think so? Well, there's nothing more which I can write about myself unless it is that usually I am a favorite with both women and men of all nations-that is, should I come out of my shell and show myself."

"SIR-I read your advertisement faunt quite interesting. So I will traie to describe my personalite. I realy wish I cut visit that place.

"I am a midle age widow. Brunet, no byeaty, but plesent and sympatetique to any true soul and square nature. I have a need and slendy figureful of energie

and interpriser. "Only I need a Husband with meaning to help me. I have a good, congenial nature, love Home, and good Housekeeping. I am Italianne bern, but German father, 18 years in America. I speak Italien, French, inglish and German.

"Nice luk it is very plesent, but good nature I prefer. Before I sent to you my photo. I would like tu be sure you have receivet this leter. So accorting to your

enswerer I will do." A twenty-five-year old applicant from Brooklyn, while of a loving nature, "will never be hung for her beauty." Dancing is one of her accomplishments, but she doubte if it will be of any use to her in that

country. A girl of The Bronx says that she is "a dear little lady," five feet one inch tall, hearted gentleman who would appreciate

a kind, loving wife." A petite brunette writes that she is "very domesticated and intelligent." She has had trouble, so far, in meeting "the right

party." A business woman sends a fat letter with a photograph of herself taken several years ago. She tells all about her last matrimonial venture, which left her a widow.

One widow past 35 says that she was forced to get a divorce from her late husband. A widow of 50 wants to hear from "the finest in the lot" of the Big Horn bache-

Enclosed with a photograph of a young woman whom any free citizen of the West should be able to love without straining anything I say. Yours for the ranch."

AMERICA'S CRY FOR HAIR. the old Plymouth Church in Brooklyn,

who wants a pure God-fearing man. A woman who is to be addressed at the general delivery window wants a gentleman with truly manly qualities who is not intemperate nor a gambler. She says that she Europe Meets Part of the Demand of New does not write from lack of opportunities, but solely because she loves the Western country.

This is written on a large sheet of ruled paper:

"Have been reading the comment in today's paper regarding the Gray Bull Club. It has occurred to me that possibly among its many members i may find a fit companion for life.

"Doubtless many of these gentlemen are possessed of great wealth. This fact alone would not tempt me to write you on such a sacred subject. I have heard much concerning the wild and woly west while i know that Automobiles don't run up trees and telegraph poles i do believe many of these gentlemen would be a better husband than the average fashionably dressed man of New York.

"I am a young woman of 18 years 5 feet 5 irches tall weighing 130 lbs. Sufficient??? Dark brown hair and large blue eyes. Possibly i would change and improve in the Western Atmosphere.

"If you think you can rick me out the right man don't lose any time. Whether his name be John or Bill, he must be of a jovial nature, kird and affectionate. He may be of any religion no objection and CUSS to himself when things don't please him.

"I understand that you require a photograph and as they are not very expensive could furnish one. I trust you will favor me with an early reply for this is my first attempt canvassing for a husband. And remember that young girls are easily discouraged and Valentine's Day is coming.

Two school teachers in the very fine fields of Olean write together to put in an application. Several young ladies of Rochester, through one of their number, offer to reduce the number of bachelors in Wyoming.

A "clever little widow" of Tuxedo Park wants a man who does not use liquor or intoxicating drinks and who would appreciate her. Another writes from New York that the city is a howling wilderness so far as men are concerned.

"A woman who wants a man for a husband can't find them here," she explains. "Looks don't count; most of us would be dead if they did," writes a woman who wants a broad minded man who doesn't drink. She doesn't care for style, "although

have been surrounded with it all my A girl from the upper West Side prefaces her letter with this apology: "It is not usual for me to seek a husband in this man-

ner. With a photograph which is certainly a strong recommendation comes this letter:

"As I am willing to marry if I can get the ight man, I take the liberty of writing to you I want a man, a real man in every sense of le word, who is strong, healthy, sober and honest, one who loves and respects women and would shoot a man for insulting a good woman. A big, whole souled man who could not do a mean little trick and who loves every living thing from a big

herse to a tiny flower.
"In the great West I believe there are such men and a man like that I would love with my whole heart and I would try to make him the best of wives. Here in the East in the large cities the human feelings of most men are killed by their desi'e to get rich and then the many temptations, the luxuries of the club, &c., ruins the happy married life.

"Is there a min among you that every ranchman and miner loves and respects, and if so and if it will not be too much trouble will you give him this letter? I want the best man in the Basin and I suppose he will want to know what I have to offer him in return."

She adds the specifications. A Russian girl of Garman parentage

writes: to meet centlemen. Now, as I am getting older I would like to have somebody to love me and for some one to take care of I would like to in return. I don't look for I would like to in return. I don't look for \$50,000. I want a good, kind hearted husband a bout 45 to 50 years cld. A nice, clean home, as I have no money in return to give. I am a true, since e woman."

The writer of the next one sends at the top of her letter a stamp photograph of the Bowe'y school showing her in cowgirl clothes aiming a 'evolver.

The next after that sends her photograph in tamer exsturre, "to show that I am not a fleak," she says. "We both are in our twenty-first birth-day," while two others who apply jointly. F. om Cornwall, Orange county, writes a

worran of \$5, who wants no dude or great swell, but just a loving, big heirted man. She says she is rot gildy, but sensible. An applicant from furthest Harlem sends

An applicant from furthest Hailem sends an attractive photograph of two gils, snapped in their Sunday clothes against a stone wall, the nigh one being labelled in penoil "me." She says:

"I don't feel that the man who would fall to my lot would have a great deal to regret, but on the contrary am conceited enough to believe that he would consider himself

to believe that he would consider hi nself fortunate. As to disposition rine is not the sweetest in the world, for once in a while, and sometimes twice in a while I give some practical demonstrations of temper, but did yeu ever see a gil without a temper that was worth anything? I never did.

"Herewith, enclose photograph of myself and gil friend, yours truly being on the right, and in this way you can judge for yourself whether I was fortunate or unfortunate in having such a face selected for me to wear the rest of my life.

unfortunate in having such a face selected for me to wear the rest of my life.

"I would want a man of a kind, considerate disposition, and who would not come home at 3 A. M. and try to unlock a door with a poker chip—not a saint, by any means, but a man with a good heart—and while we all admire a good looker' this, of course, would not be necessary, although I must say I prefer large men so should you have any on the waiting list answering this description whom you think I might suit, have him answer my letter and let's see if Fate decrees that I am to be the wife of a Big Horn Bachelor."

The last letter in the compliation is a

The last letter in the compilation is a complaint of New York from a woman of suburbs:

re dyed a fest color, for the eason that it can't be treated with certain chemicals or put into a kettle and boiled, after the fashing of false hair, but it's different with hair after it has been cut.

"What is known in the trade as first quality hair is bought in Cermany, Boheming Pressia, Italy, Sweden and the north of Pressia, Italy, Sweden and the north of the second states and from healthy. "The newspaper clipping which was France, principally, and from healthy pessant gills by pedies, so called, who do nothing else but travel the country over all the year round on the bookout for burgains in human hair. These men are experts in their business and the ears not many of them, for which reason they can regulate to some extent prices in the hir

"The newspaper clipping which was handed to me by a friend who believes I am daft on the sul ject of living a life such as you enjoy on a ranch pleased me very much and so I vowed to answer.

"Now, this is not a spasm I have which will not last longer than a week or so, but a great wish and longing to live a life comparatively out of doors. Free to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. Now do not think for a moment that I am a New York grafter. I am not out for the 'Mun' but I an tired of living so dull a life.

"Now, here is a sketch. I get up at 6 every morning and hustle to get dressed and eat or half eat my treakfast, run for a train, ride twenty-two miles to New York city in a crowd d train, get in a mad rush in the subway, and rush from there to the office. I am a bookkeeper so have a dull position working on figures all day.

"At night I leave the office at 6 to repeat the travel of the morning. Can you imagine any one of the 1,000 doing that?

"I am getting desperate. I simply cantal the subway and the subway. All you

"I am getting desperate. I simply can-not s and the life much longer. All you hear in New York is 'step lively,' 'move on,'

stop pushing,' 'human hogs,' and numerous "I am a plain girl. Have always rassed in a crowd. Been I rought up to be useful. Please don't think I am a dried up old maid. Why, this is my first year on the shelf. I am 26 years old in March and love fun to the limit.

to carry it to a hair dealer. Mere combings vary in length from 8 to 40 inches, the length, of course, regulating the price, and before they can be dressed at all they must be le kled, that is, separated with an instrument not unlike a steel rake, and then turned, the roots one way, the ends another PRICES TREBLED IN THE LAST

Twenty years ago, or so, a first class workman gs a day. Now he can do fifty York Women, China a Part and the Goats of Turkestan Supply Some More

of combings a day. Now he can do fifty pounds, and at that time it cost us \$25 to bleach one pound of hair, which now we can tleach for \$4. This will explain why human hair fetched a higher price many years ago than now.

ears ago than now.

"The newer process of turning? Well, it is simply this. The combings after being heckled, instead of being separated by hand, are put in warm soap suds, when according to a law of gravity the roots, which are the heavier, stay down and the ends curl to. ends curl up.
"Owing to the limited supply of first

and second quality hair, and the tremendous demand for false hair not at top notch prices, dealers have to help themselves and the public by supplying a third and much cheaper grade of hair," the dealer said in

answer to a question.

"This for the most part is Chinese hair and mostly combings. Unless the Chinaman rencurces his religion he doesn't dare to part with his queue.

"There is nothing the matter with Chinese

weighs perhaps one ounce, and that a flat There is nothing the matter with Chinese hair. It is good, strong hair and would bring as high a price as any were it not that it is very coarse and always nearly black in color. Consequently nearly every curce of it must be blached and dyed before it is ready for the market, for no one buys hair of the color of natural Chinese front mane of fine quality weighs even less. Dealers agree that the prices of the finest hair have almost tre led in the last four years on account of the increased demand. and also because hair of the finest qualities

"In the process of bleaching, the hair is thinned a little with acids and by the time it goes through the lest touches Chinese hair can hardly be told from the best quality except by a dealer who knows it at once by the feel. Here is a switch, for example, which we have made to order for one of the retail hair detlers to whom a customer brought a sample of her heir to be matched. brought a sample of her hair to be matched. He couldn't match it, nor is it likely any other dealer in the city could, for the reason that her hair was a remarkable shade of red seldom or rever seen in false hair."

The switch displayed, gloriously red in color, was shiny, besutiful to look at and matched perfectly the sample pinned to the end. To a novice the hair was all that could be dealered. The dealer shook his head.

be desired. The desler shook his head.

"Feel of it," said he, "and any one will detect that it is more glassy than the other qualities and heavier; and this is an extra

good piece, too good piece, too.

"As a ru'e Chinese hair fetches about oneeighth the price of first quality hair, sometimes only one-tenth as much. It is used average work turned out formerly was far largely in making negro switches and wigs, for which there is a tremendous demand. By a certain process Chinese hair, which. by the way, is quite suitable in color, can be crinkled into a perfect imitation of negro

So far no one has been able to manufacture a good in itation of human hair, but for all that there is a lot of stuff sold for hair in New York and elsewhere which is tot hair at all. It is yah, the hair of a goet found in Turkestan, and always cream white. We import only the tails of the animal, and these are covered with hair

sometimes thirty-two inches long.
"In natural white hair it is not easy to get a switch longer than twenty-four inches, and a two owner switch of first quality white hair costs at retail about \$150. Here is some ya't before it is dressed."

The make believe hair displayed looked is carded something like wool before it

only much longer and less fine. In response to the question "Can that ever be made to lookalke hair?" the dealer produced a switch of pure white hair—beautiful hair, one not in the secret would say—silky in apprarance, the long strands fine and distinct This can be combined very successfully with dark hair to make a soft gray and retailers have many orders for white switches and pompadours at a low price which they can fill only by using ya'," he said. "No, I have never handled Indian hair. The Indian values his hair too highly

to part with it, I think. At any rate, so far as I know, there is none in the market." WOMEN AT THE BANK. An Official Tells Some of the Queer Things

They Do. From the Boston Daily Advertiser. Many women depositors do humorous things in banks. They draw checks for 10 cents and frequently have new bills tested lest they should be counterfeit. Some of them insist upon having coins and bank notes disinfected while they wait inste d sking new ones, while others ask for two

Drawing checks when they've no money to their credit and depositing bills that they have carefully rolled into small wads are a few of the peculiarities of women who have bank accounts.

Women who deposit thousands of dollars each year do the most extraordinary things," said a bank official. "In handing in bills, instead of laying them out flat, face up, as they should, they push them in, rolled in most unusual shapes, evidently twisted to fit their purses, some of them in small round balls, others in triangles, ropelike rolls or squares, folded eight to ten times.
"Many of the women have certain days for depositing their money and frequently keep large sums in their strong boxes at home because they have but one banking day and do all business at that time.

"There are two women, well known in so-ciety too, who for years have deposited the sime amount each time they came to the One alw ys 'ands in \$100, and several times when the check has been for a few cants less I have seen her take the change from her purse to make the deposit the re-

hair of elderly recoile is and to be thin and not over and above healthy and naturally the owners would not be inclined to part with it even if dealers wanted to buy.

"All shades of gray switches, false waves, pompadours, &c., are produced by mingling whire and block or white and dark brown. All shades of white hair are turned out by means of bleaches. There are dozens of stades of natural whire hair and these we faithfully counterfeit by the aid of acids.

"Any retail dealer will fell you that many women with white hair object to blue whire hair, and nowadays the dealer must be able to meet all these preferences.

"It is no linger a question of women taking what they can get in the hair line, but of the hair dealer handing out what the women want. What nature has not done and will not do must be supplied by art." quired amount. . One of the smallest amounts we were ever asked to receive was brought in by a woman, who destroyed the check when she found that exchange was charged on it. This depositor had a check for 10 cents drawn by a relative in Idaho and when she handed it in the clerk told her that an ex-charge of 10 cents was due on it. Well, what will I get out of it if the charge is 10 cents and the check is made for the same amount, she asked in an indignant tone. The clerk explained to her in the most conclistory manner that it was a rule the banks had with the clearing house that on all sums from o't of town an exchange of 10 cent should be charged on amounts of \$100 and

under. "Why then should I hand in the check if I don't get the money, she queried. 'I'd rather destroy it,' and taking the paper in her fingers, tore it into a hundred pieces and

wal'red o't There are several of our depositors who ston in on their way home from shopping to have money disinfected before they put it into their purses. One of them, who lives that disease germs are transmitted by bills, coins, &c., puts all the money she reta while shopping into a leather wallet which has been well furnisated and then turns the contents in here to be cleaned before she will place it in her purse. Another one always puts money she receives in a long parer envelope in which there are several moth

bals and brings it to us for cleaning.
"Some of the women are possessed with the idea that they are always getting had money, and one of them frequently asks us to test a new note issued by our own ban' and signed by the precident and cashier. She never deposits a dollar that she doesn't first ask if it is a counterfeit. "

The Average Age of Birds. From the New Orleans Times Democrat.

The doctrine of vegetarianism appears to be slightly shaken by the result of an in-On a healthy person the hilr grows rapidly, achieving almost full length again in a cuple of years or so, which explains why the hair supply never falls much below vestigation that an English newspaper has made into the subject of the longevity of birds. With one notable exception, the carrion or meat feeding birds are the longer "Second quality hair consists mostly of combings and it trings almost as high a price as first quality after it is prepared lived. The exception is the swan. The average ages of some of the best known birds are given in the following: Blackbird lives 12 for the retailers, because of the extra work needed to bring it to prime condition. Combings are collected in very large quanyears: blackcap, 15: canary, 24: crane, 24 crow, 100 eagle, 100; fowl, common, 10; goldfinch, 15; goose, 50; heron, 50; tark, 13; linnet, 23; nightingale, 18; parrot, 60; partridge, 15; peacock, 24; pelican, 50; pheasant, 15; pigeon, 20; raven, 100; robin, 12; skylark, 30; sparrow hawk, 40; swan, 100; thrish, 10, and wren, 3 years. The average age of the boarding house wariety of chicken is still undetermined. "Nearly all Italian shop girls save their combings to sell, and, in fact, nearly every lady in Europe puts carefully by her combto sell or to hand over to a servant

A THISKERS OR NO WHISKERS?

An English Humorist on the Advantage Some Great Men Take of Their Greatness.

BY FRANK BITH LEDSON. Author of "The Bayswater Miracle,""The Secret

Why wear whiskers? This is a question which must have occurred to every thinking man and woman, yet on this matter it is almost impossible o obtain any authoritative information. If you ask a man why he wears whiskers or ask a man's wife why she allows him to wear whiskers you get no information.

It is possible that you may get abuse. Obviously these strange fittings serve no good purpose. Although I have seen men who cultivate such monstrous crops that they resemble fins, yet it is probable that they are useless for swimming pur-

Again, to the motorist they are a distinct inconvenience. They get filled with dust. Why does no enterprising inventor produce nosebags for whiskers? Made of spenge bag material and in various sizes and produced at a reasonable figure, I think considerable business might be done

in whisker bags for motorists. As a matter of fact, for all outdoor amusements and pursuits the whisker is a distinct

inconvenience. Some years ago there was a famous cricketer, a man known by the name of Cock Robin, who cultivated his face fungus to such an extent that before bowling it was his practice to tie his natural ivy behind his head. A quaint practice truly, and one calculated to alarm the batsman. I am not much of a cricketer myself, but I am quite sure I should cry aloud for help if I were bowled at by a trundler who looked like an animated starfish.

For their utility, therefore, it seems to me that nothing can be said. As to their asthetic value that, obviously, is nil. A statue of a god in whiskers would scarcely appeal either to one's artistic or to one's devotional sense. It would be quite as bad as the statue of Mr. Palmer with the umbrella at Reading.

Mr. Algernon Ashton lately approached a leading newspaper in search of a decision as to whether the majority of the world's celebrated men were clean shaven or bearded. He state I that his appeal to that journal was the result of a discussion with a friend on the point. However, he provided a list of celebrated clean shaven men and also of celebrated beavers, as bearded men are technically termed. Mr. Ashton was inclined to the belief that the bulk of the world's celebrities were bearded, while his friend took the other view.

At the outset of this interesting conversation it seems to me that Mr. Ashton and his friend should have come to some definite understanding as to the meaning of the word "beard." With regard to the interpretation of "clean shaven"-that is to say "entirely shaved" as to cheek and chin and throat-it would seem that there could not possibly be two opinions.

Yet Mr. Ashton's disputant has seen fit to include in his list of eminent men who wore their faces nude the Duke of Wellington (in latter life, at least, a wearer of cotton wool fittings on his cheek bones) Sir John Millais (a confirmed whisker wearer to the day of his death) and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain (an intermittent whisker wearer, at any rate, until the age of 35). In this connection it is interesting to recall the fact thathe wrote somewhere in the 180 a few sections. wearer to the day of his death) and Mr. in the '60s a farce in one act called

This admirable exercise in dramaturgy contains a significant catchword, placed in the mouth of a female servant, "Oh, lock at his whisherses!" The little paper covered volume is very rare and is much sought after by the admirers of the ex-Colonial Secretary and enthusiastic whiskerateurs.

I have said enough to show that Mr.

has not dealt fairly It is not here necessary for me to instance the numbers of other persons included in his list, who at some portion of their lives (prior to, during or subseq to the production of the works that made them famous) wore hair upon their

who had directed more attention to the sulject under discussion, his own letter would have been infinitely more valuable than it is. I am not tlaming Mr. Ashton. than it is. I am not training air. Ashen.
I am blaming his anonymous friend, a
friend who—it seems to me—was entirely
unworthy to join the hirsute symposium.
Now, as to Mr. Algernon Ashton and his
definition of the word "heard." Obviously,

t is far too comprehensive.

By "beard" this eminent littérateur anparently understands anything in the way of natural ivy that grows upon the human

face. He is wrong. Possibly he has been misled by the Century Diction by:

Beard 1. The close growth of hair on the chin and parts of the face normally charac-teristic of an adult man; more specifically the hair of the face and chin when allowed to remain wholly or in part unshaved, that on the upper lip being distinguished as the he, and the remainder as the whiskers, or the side whiskers, chin whiskers, or beard,

No doubt it is this popular and entirely unscientific work which led Mr. Ashton into the error of regarding almost any sort of hair fitting as a beard; therefore it is that he spoke of Mr. Gladstone, Bismarck, John Bright, Lord Beaconsfield, Richard Wagner, Arthur Balfour, Sir Herbert Spencer, Arthur Balfour, Sir William Harcourt and Rudyard Kipling as "bearded men."

Sir William Harcourt was no more bearded sir William Harcourt was no more bearded than Millais was. Disraeli wore a farcy fitting on his chin; but surely, surely, it was not a beard. John Bright wore—to put it at its worst—a chin whisker; he was in no sense a bearded man. Gladstone harbored some slight hirsute excrescence beneath his chin; but did any expert ever slude to him as a "bearded politician," even in conversation with the laity? I doubt it. I doubt it very much.

These, again, are but examples of the many errors into which Mr. Aston fell in his discussion, with his discussion, with his discussion.

many errors into which Mr. Ashton fell in his discussion with his friend. Had Mr. Ashton's friend possessed more technical knowledge of the subject he would, I am

knowledge of the subject he would, I'am sure, have been more careful in marshalling his forces of celebrities in beards.

A "bearded man" is in my humble opinion—humble, though I have devoted a lifetime to the subject, and therefore I can afford to speak on the matter with a certain air of humility which in another man might be deemed egotism—a male person who allows "all the hair bulbs on his free to grow to their fullest extent." (For the purposes of this act a beard includes also, and obviously, whiskers.)

purposes of this act a beard includes also, and obviously, whiskers.)

But for the curious errors of the Century Dictionary and Mr. Ashton it would seem incredible that any confusion should arise as to beards and whiskers. It is surely palpable that the term "whisker" implies an isolated growth—an oasis of hair on the lateral portions of a face shaven in the main, while the word "beard" should, if only for convenience sake, be applied to the maximum hirsute output of which the

features are capable.

Hence Mr. Ashton's capricious allocation of his celebrities to one class or the other is misleading. At one time he regards whisker wearers as "clean shaven." At another he deals with them as "bearded

And it is this very laxness, this entire absence of discrimination on the part of the laity that increases the difficulty of intelligently enunciating the great whisker

Apparently nine men out of ten and two

dictionaries out of three do not know what

whisker is.
Good heavens! We have all seen whiskers. Some of us have worn them. And yet
and yet, we think they are really beards! As to wnetner the majority of great men have worn beards in the true sense of the word or been (accurately) clean it is impossible to give an opinion that can be of any great value—so much depends on the conditions under which the alleged

great men lived. Autre temps, autres barbes. The patriarchs were bearded, the Romans and the Greeks were shaved clean, the Elizabethans sat upon the fence, the Stuarts and the Hapoverians were no hair upon their faces, except in the case of the former a slight whisker on the upper lip and occa-sionally the fancy fitting which is now called an imperial

an imperial. With regard to the eighteenth century can you conceive a man in a powdered wig wearing a beard or—am I justified in

mentioning the word again-whiskers? True, you may quote against me at the bar to-day (the barrister's horse hair wig

bar to-day (the barrister's horse hair wig dates from the eighteenth century) Sir Edward Clarke and Dr. Blake Odgers. I can offer no defence. I cannot even explain them away. These fittings exist That is all that one can say.

The conclusion of the whole matter is this: Great men in the past have sometimes taken a petty advantage of their greatness. They have been untidy in their habits, careless of their appearance.

Fashion, the goddess to whom even the most enthusiastic atheist should bend the knee, has exercised no influence upon their better selves. Many of them, in the pride of their hearts, have been bearded even of their hearts, have been bearded even as was the vegetarian Nebuchadnezzar and he for his strange habits fell on evil

But in our time be sure of this, that he who grows hair upon his face does it to mask some infamous trait of character. to conceal a faulty set of dental apparatus or to dissemble the ownership of a receding

A truly great man will, of a surety, have the courage of the villainy that is his, will purchase an outfit of artificial snappers or

No. a great man never has a receding chin. It is curious that Mr. Algernon Ashton. one of the leading correspondents of our day, should be so pleasantly absorbed in this matter. It may be of interest to him to know that his tendency in this directions are the control of the control o

s, perhaps, due to some almost unintelligible form of atavism.

The first Alcernon who came to this country was William de Percy, a Norman adherent of the Conqueror's. He was strikingly bewhiskered, and on that account he seems to have been known among his friends as William als Gernons or "William with the whiskers." What his enemies called him has not transpired, but according to Burke "his posterity have constantly borne the name of Algernon." Still the (I am compelled to mention the form of atavism. Still the (I am compelled to mention the word again) whiskers seem to have died out in the Percy family. Let us hope they will soon die out everywhere else.

WHY HE DIDN'T GROWL. Story Told by One of a Party of Four Trying

to Eat a Tough Beefsteak. Four men sitting around a restaurant table eating a very tough beefsteak and all growling flercely, except one.

"Why don't you holler?" said one of the growlers to the silent one. "Do you like tough beefstesk?' "No better than anybody else," said the fourth man, "but I had an experience once

over tough beefsteak that has made me shy about growling at it ever since. "At a restaurant where a party of us were taking our meals at that time, in a town in California, we had, every day. beefsteak that you would call this tender alongside of. Honest, I think it must have been tanned or prepared in some way, because it was like a thick hide for tough-

"And we used to growl over that beef-

"And we used to growl over that beefsteak, just as you fellows have been doing
here, and finally we got real grumpy over it,
so that we were always sour at the table.
Then I thought I'd liven things up a little,
and maybe even get the boys to smile once
more—they were naturally a cheerful lot—
by making a little joke over the meals.

"So one day I brought in a hatchet with
me under my coat, and when our regular
slabs of beefsteak came on I got the hatchet
out and laid it on the table. And that
actually did make the boys smile a little.

"But it didn't affect the proprietor that
way. He swied the hatchet as soon as I laid
it on the table and came right over. it on the table and came right over.

"What you carrying that hatchet 'round for?' he says. 'Are you a lather?'
"No.' I says. 'I brought that in to cut up the beefsterk with.'
"He was a big man, had been a miner, and he was strong and able, and a fighter, and I knew this; but I'd brought that hatchet in just for a little joke. I had not meant anything terrible by it, and I didn't feel that I had done him any greas wrong, and so I spoke up good and bold.
"What's the matter with the steak?' he says, his free getting harder all the time. 'Is it tough!' I said. 'Why,' and then,

"'What you corrying that hatchet 'coung

time. 'Is it tough?'
"Is it tough?' I said. 'Why,' and then,
because by this time I was getting to be
quite warmed up, I tried to tell him. "I tried to convey to him as clearly as I could just how tough it was; with him telling me, before I got through, that I'd better get right out ard go somewhere where the steeks would suit me better, and starting finally to put me out when I

ard starting finally to put me out when I didn't go.

"And then, of course, my friends came in, and then the waiters butted in to help the boss. And then for quite a spell we certainly did have a strenuous time there. But they put us out finally, and I lost my hatchet, and in the course of the row, which had started over that little joke of mine, I got a handling that was a good deal tougher than the beefsteak. I didn't get around again for three weeks.

"And the moral effect of that little incident, which happened eighteen years ago this month, has remained with me ever since. I may, occ sionally growl at some

since. I may, occasionally growl at some other things, and I think very likely we could do up this outfit here; but I never growl, myself, at tough beefsteak." MASSAGE BY THE BLIND. In Japan They Alone May Give It-Are

Taught in Special Schools. From the San Francisco Bulletin All visitors to Japan will recall the sad soft tones of the flutes at night, on the streets, in coun'ry lanes, in forest glades and on the

soft tones of the flutes at night, on the streets, in country lanes, in forest glades and on the mountain paths. It is a melodious and plaintive tune, always the same, and it is heard only when night has enveloped these places in her shadows.

It is the flute of the blind Amma San, the massage man and woman. From old men, hoery with age, to young girls in their teens, there they wander, the blind people of Japan. By law, strictly enforced, they must be blind, either from birth or through some fatelity during their lives. Thus they gain an honorabl living.

With perfect knowledge, gained by years of study in schools specially provided for them, they knead, twist and new string every nerve, sinew and tendril in the human body. In two hours time they will create a new being, masterly in their manipulation of the tired traveller, the exhausted debauché and the revous hypochendriac, of the woman suffering from neuralgia, sick headache or the weaknesses of a languid mind and body.

They will take charge of your body from the lead to the soles of your feet, and while their task in completed, they leave behind them a lineering sense of entire comfort, of placid well feeling, which mekes lou year soon cell them back again. Some 21 these sirls ere pretty end stiractive and their helplessness gives them an additional charmine rural districts much less.

British Girl Pickpockets in Paris.

British Girl Pickpockets in Paris

From the New Orleans Times-Democrat. Two tall, fair haired British girls, who ga Two tall, fair haired British girls, who gave their names as Fanny Sodway and Mar Mulldoev, were arrested in Paris receasily while picking pockets with the help of a most ingenious device attached to a parasol estectially constructed for thieving.

In the handle was a spring which acre on a pair of strong nippers concealed in the point of the ferrule. The girls held flow parasols under their arms and by means at the spring would work the nippers to enwarde chain. Then one of them would design pick the victim's pocket of his watch.

After being followed by a detective they were caught redhanded in the act of grant fully relieving a pedestrian of some valuations.